

December 3, 2015

Mr. Bob Garrison
Managing Director – Southern California Region
The True Life Companies, LLC
23 Corporate Plaza, Suite 150
Newport Beach, CA 92660
Transmitted via email to nick@caldwellandsolutions.com

Re: *Cultural Resource Constraints Analysis for the Fireman's Circle Project, in the City of Murrieta, Riverside County, California*

Dear Mr. Garrison:

This letter, prepared by Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ), summarizes the results of the cultural resource constraints analysis for the Fireman's Circle Project (Project) in the City of Murrieta, Riverside County, California.

Project Setting

The Project proposes to develop approximately 14 acres of land located north of Clinton Keith Road and west of Interstate 215 into a residential community. Specifically, the Project is depicted on the Murrieta, CA 7.5' USGS quadrangle map in Section 34 of Township 6S/Range 3W San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (S.B.B.M.) (Figure 1). The Project contains three separate parcels, identified from west to east, as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 392-220-013, 392-220-017, and 392-220-018.

Cultural Resource Literature and Records Search Results

A cultural resource literature and records search of the California Historical Resources Inventory System (CHRIS) database was conducted at the Eastern Information Center at the University of California, Riverside, on November 5, 2015. The objective of this records search was to determine whether any prehistoric or historical resources had been recorded previously within a one-mile radius of the Project boundaries (see Figure 1). Sources consulted during the cultural resources literature and records search include the EIC's base maps depicting all of the previous cultural resources studies conducted previously within one-mile of the Project area, as well as any cultural resources identified previously within one-mile of the Project area. Other sources consulted include: the listings of the National Register of Historic Places; the Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility; the Office of Historic Preservation Historic Property Directory; the California Register of Historical Resources; and the listing of California Historical Landmarks and California Points of Historical Interest.

According to records on file at the EIC, no properties currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, the listing of California Historical Landmarks or Points of Historical Interest are located within the Project area.



Historical maps consulted during the literature and records search include: the Elsinore 30-minute U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle dating to 1901; the Murrieta 15-minute U.S. Army Corps of Engineers quadrangle dating to 1943; the Murrieta 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle dating to 1953; and the Murrieta 7.5 minute quadrangle edition of 1979. According to these map sources, no historical resources are located within the Project area.

The results of the records search indicate that 44 cultural resource investigations have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the Project area; however, none of these studies involved the Project area. These studies resulted in the identification and documentation of 37 cultural resources, none of which are located within the Project area. The majority of these resources are prehistoric sites and isolated prehistoric artifacts. At least seven bedrock milling sites have been identified in the vicinity, as well as five lithic scatters, and two prehistoric habitation sites which contained numerous stone grinding implements and flaked stone tools and debitage. The balance of the sites found in the area consist of late nineteenth and early and middle twentieth century features and relics, including refuse deposits, homestead and farmhouse remnants, a mine pit, and two residences. The 15 isolated artifacts included a variety of metates, manos, flakes, and cores.

The 1901 USGS map, surveyed in 1897–1898, depicts a farmhouse a short distance to the northeast of the Project boundary, and an access road nearing the southeast corner of the Project area. However, the Project area itself appears to have been vacant and undeveloped at that time, with the extent of its use likely being for cattle grazing or other forms of agriculture. The farmhouse and access roads were no longer depicted on the 1940s U.S Army Corps of Engineers map and 1950s USGS map, suggesting they may have disappeared from the landscape by the middle twentieth century. By 1979, a web of roads and scattered buildings were depicted within and across the vicinity of the Project area, representative of the growth and development of the region during the post-World War Two population boom and expansion period in southern California.

Reconnaissance Archaeological Survey

Æ archaeologist, Dennis McDougall, completed the reconnaissance survey of the three parcels comprising the Project area on November 10, 2015. With the exception of the northern half of APN 392-220-018, the landscape within the entire Project area has been graded and/or altered to some extent during the residential development of the three parcels. The northern half of APN 392-220-018 is undeveloped, and consists of an eroded, rocky knoll with scattered granitic outcrops.

Two cultural resources, temporarily identified as Æ-3345-1 and Æ-3345-2H, were identified during the reconnaissance survey of the Project area. Æ-3345-1 is located on the rocky knoll within the northern half of APN 392-220-018. This resource consists of a prehistoric site containing two granitic outcrops about 10 meters apart with a single milling slick on each outcrop. No cultural materials were observed on the ground surface surrounding these two outcrops, and considering the eroded nature of the knoll top and abundance of bedrock outcrops, there appears to be little to no potential for the presence of subsurface cultural deposits. Æ-3345-2H is located near the northern boundary of APN-392-220-017, and consists of a dilapidated, standing wood-frame structure that is likely the original residential structure that was built when the parcel was developed in 1965; however, further archival research and an examination of the structure by an architectural historian would be needed to confirm the possible historical nature of this structure.



Native American Communication

Æ contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on November 4, 2015, for a review of the *Sacred Lands File*, to determine if any known Native American cultural properties (e.g., traditional use or gathering areas, places of religious or sacred activity, etc.) are present within or adjacent to the Project area. The NAHC responded on November 24, 2015 stating that the *Sacred Lands File* search was completed with negative results. Æ also contacted the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians (Pechanga) and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Soboba) via electronic mail on November 11, 2015, to inquire if they have any concerns with the Project area, as both tribes are very active in cultural resource studies in the vicinity of Project. Follow-up voicemail messages were left with Pechanga and Soboba on November 18, 2015. On November 30, 2015, Anna Hoover, Cultural Analyst for Pechanga discussed the Project area with Æ and noted that the Project area is a little more than a mile away from prominent village sites. Ms. Hoover also stated that the Project would be subject to Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), once an application is submitted. Pechanga would like any surface features associated with the newly identified prehistoric site (Æ-3345-1) to be avoided during Project construction. If avoidance is not feasible, Phase II testing is recommended. Finally, Pechanga would like a qualified archaeological and tribal monitor present during all earth-moving activities. As of the date of this letter, no response was received from the Soboba tribe.

Management Recommendations

Based on the results of the cultural resource constraints analysis, the proposed Project is moderately sensitive for cultural resources. One prehistoric bedrock milling site was identified during the reconnaissance survey. In addition, a dilapidated, wood-frame structure of unknown age, or approaching the 50 year threshold for consideration as a potential historical resource under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was also noted. A complete Phase-1 cultural resource assessment of the Project area, including formal documentation of the two sites, archival research, and significance evaluation is recommended to determine whether these sites qualify as “historically significant” resources under CEQA and are eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources, and assess the potential impact of the Project to these resources.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information provided above, please feel free to contact me at (951) 766-2000 or Vanessa Mirro at (626) 578-0119.

Best regards,

Joan George
Associate Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.

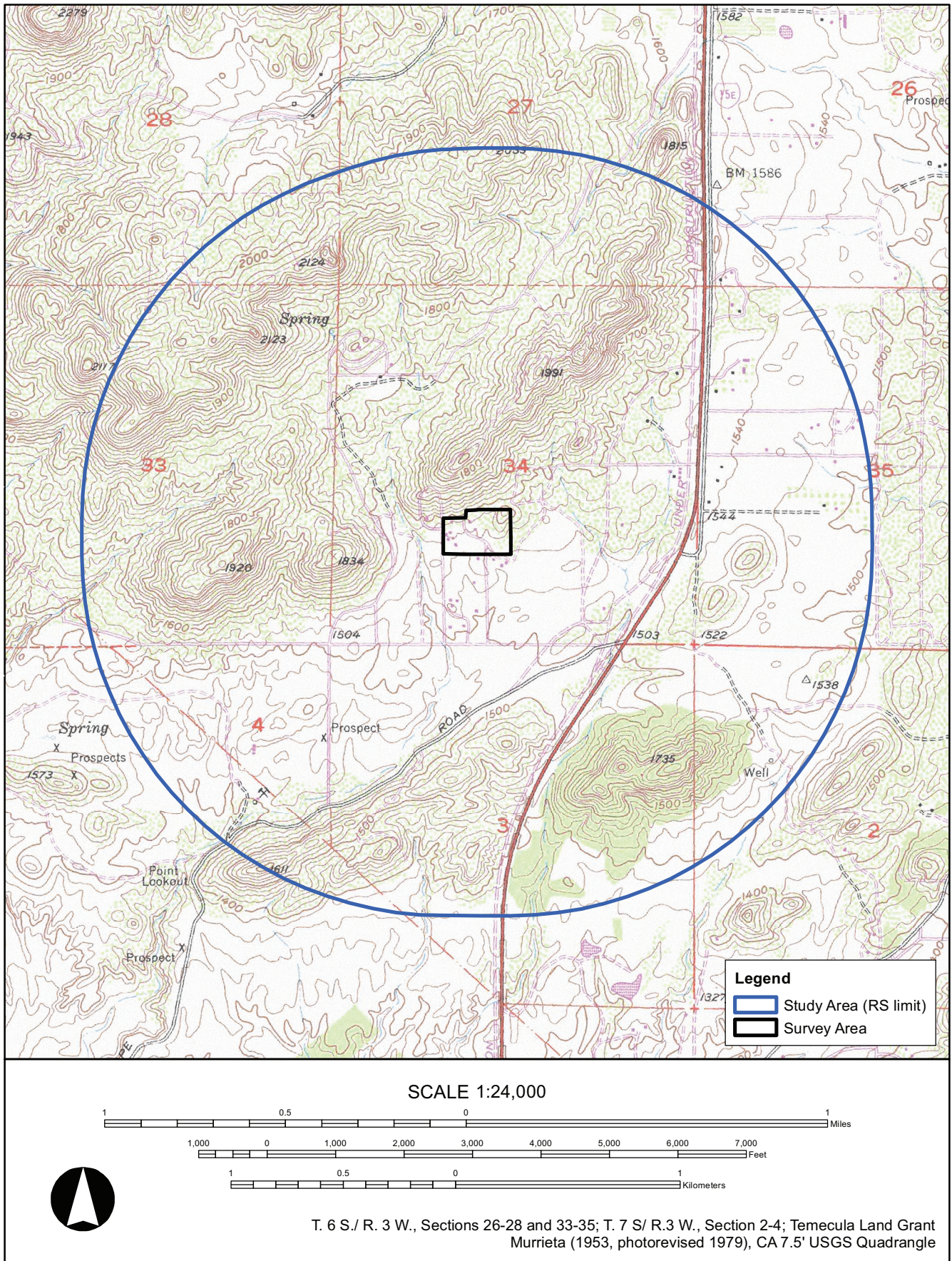


Figure 1. Location map for the Fireman's Circle Project